

16 April 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX ADP Coordinator

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FROM : [REDACTED]
CAMS Project Manager

SUBJECT : Enhanced Communications for CAMS

REFERENCE : Top Level Requirements for the COMIREX Automated
Management System (CAMS), dtd 12 Mar 75,
[REDACTED]

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1. The recent briefing we both received by the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) Project Manager on 30 March 1979 has prompted me to once again review the requirements we currently have to support and/or enhance data communications between CAMS and other Community systems. Section 5.0 and succeeding subsections of the referenced document present requirements to transfer large quantities of data between systems. I am interpreting this requirement as the ability to install data from other non-CAMS systems into CAMS as a result of querying the other systems. COINS-II alone, will not support the requirement. In its simplest terms, COINS-II can be thought of as a switch, similar to our COMTEN devices, which will allow one terminal access to multiple systems. Once attached to a non-CAMS system, results from queries will be displayed at the querying terminal or at a host system output device. In other words, the results are perishable unless software is installed in all systems including CAMS to provide transmission of the captured results through some other medium (DATEX for example).

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2. Other than the restrictions mentioned above and based on what we currently perceive our requirements to be for enhanced communications, at first glance, COINS-II seems like a viable option to satisfy inter-system query capability. However, we do not know the total requirement picture for enhanced communications. COINS-II may only assist us in satisfying just the CAMS/NDS inter-system queries. In this regard, before we can make any firm decision regarding CAMS' entry into COINS-II, the following requirements-oriented topics must be addressed:

- a. Will the CAMS of the future (2-4 years) be supporting more operational functions for the collection system operators? If so, will there be a requirement for more near-real time communications for our tasking and accomplishment messages than we currently provide with DATEX? Will more near-real time communications be needed to support the collection systems of the future?
- b. With the incorporation of the National Area Exploitation File (NAEF) into CAMS as part of the 1980 Area Upgrade project, we are inherently accepting responsibility to provide data from this National file to the Community. Are there requirements for any more National files requiring such access to be incorporated into the CAMS configuration?
- c. What exactly are the requirements (if any) for query results and/or other non-message data transfer between Community systems (CAMS, NDS, AIRES, CPAT, and the NRO)?
- d. Are there requirements for CAMS' users to access any non-COINS-II systems? If so, are there plans for these systems to join COINS-II or must we consider other alternatives?
- e. If CAMS joins COINS-II, what can we expect in the way of increased usage from the Community and/or the Unified and Specified (U&S) commands?

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- o Will there be new user organizations? What capabilities will they need?
 - o Should all CAMS users have access to COINS or should participation be selective?
 - o Will the current security scheme implemented in CAMS suffice or will there need to be additional levels installed to protect certain data from dissemination?
 - o Will CAMS' users be willing to learn additional query languages of other systems or shall we actively pursue a GIM-II/ADAPT interface which will require them to learn only one new language?
- f. Will there be a need to support image-quality, high resolution graphic displays through COINS-II?

3. We intend to go into a fact-gathering mode regarding COINS-II and other possible alternatives. We are going to initiate discussions within our own Office and the Offices of Communications and Security. In addition, we are going to request a site survey by a specialist from NSA to determine the cost and feasibility from a technical standpoint to join COINS-II. Depending on the availability of the NSA specialist, we hope to begin this effort within two (2) months. However, we will need from you a complete review and restatement of COMIREX/Community requirements regarding enhanced communications covering at a minimum the topics I have outlined in the preceding paragraph. This information, along with the results of our efforts must all be in hand before we can determine our course of action.

4. I realize that you weren't planning on addressing this subject for quite some time, but depending on your requirements, the implementation of enhanced communications could be a significant effort. I feel the time is right to enlist NSA's support to assist us should we choose to join COINS-II and that your efforts in defining these requirements should be accorded a high priority. Please contact me regarding this subject and the possible trade-offs that could be made in your current workload to accommodate this request.

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